OIPE JC186 AUG 20 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~Form~~ PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number
2658 (203-2736)	09/815,504
Applicant	
Castro et al.	
Filing Date	**Group Art Number**
March 23, 2001	3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR		DES 374,283	10/1/96	MICHELSON			
		DES 397,436	08/25/98	MICHELSON			
		2,677,369	05/04/54	F.L. KNOWLES			
		3,426,364	02/11/69	W.V. LUMB			
		3,486,505	12/30/69	G.M. MORRISON			
		3,648,691	03/14/72	LUMB ET AL.			
		3,719,186	03/06/73	MERIG, JR.			
		3,848,601	11/19/74	MA ET AL.			
		3,867,728	02/25/75	STUBSTAD ET AL.			
		3,867,932	02/25/75	HUENE			
		3,905,047	09/16/75	LONG			
		3,916,907	11/04/75	PETERSON			
		4,059,115	11/22/77	JUMASHEV ET AL.			
		4,177,524	12/11/79	GRELL ET AL.			
		4,309,777	01/12/82	PATIL			
		4,328,593	05/11/82	SUTTER ET AL.			
		4,343,321	08/10/82	CARANICAS			
		4,401,112	08/30/83	REZAIAN			
		4,479,491	10/30/84	MARTIN			
AB		4,484,570	11/27/84	SUTTER ET AL.			

Examiner	Date Considered
A. Stewart	03/19/03

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS		4,501,269	2/26/85	BAGBY			
		4,537,185	08/27/85	STEDNITZ			
		4,545,374	10/08/85	JACOBSON			
		4,553,273	11/19/85	WU			
		4,573,448	03/04/86	KAMBIN			
		4,599,084	07/08/86	NASHEF			
		4,636,217	01/13/87	OGILVIE ET AL.			
		4,657,550	04/14/87	DAHER			
		4,677,972	07/07/87	TORNIER			
		4,714,469	12/22/87	KENNA			
		4,743,256	05/10/88	BRANTIGAN			
		4,772,287	09/20/88	RAY ET AL.			
		4,790,303	12/13/88	STEFFEE			
		4,820,305	04/11/89	HARMS ET AL.			
		4,834,757	05/30/89	BRANTIGAN			
		4,877,020	10/31/89	VICH			
		4,878,915	11/07/89	BRANTIGAN			
		4,904,260	02/27/90	RAY ET AL.			
		4,904,261	02/27/90	DOVE ET AL.			
AS		4,927,421	05/22/90	GOBLE ET AL.			

Examiner	Date Considered
A. Stewart	03/19/03

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS		4,932,975	6/12/90	MAIN ET AL.			
		4,936,848	06/26/90	BAGBY			
		4,936,851	06/26/90	FOX ET AL.			
		4,961,740	10/09/90	RAY ET AL.			
		4,978,350	12/18/90	WAGENKNECHT			
		5,011,484	04/30/91	BREARD			
		5,015,247	05/14/91	MICHELSON			
		5,015,255	05/14/91	KUSLICH			
		5,055,104	10/08/91	RAY			
		5,059,193	10/22/91	KUSLICH			
		5,062,845	11/05/91	KUSLICH ET AL.			
		5,092,866	03/03/92	BREARD ET AL.			
		5,180,381	01/19/93	AUST ET AL.			
		5,192,327	03/09/93	BRANTIGAN			
		5,258,031	11/02/93	SALIB ET AL.			
		5,263,953	11/23/93	BAGBY			
		5,300,076	04/05/94	LERICHE			
		5,313,962	05/24/94	OBENCHAIN			
		5,358,511	10/25/94	GATTURNA ET AL.			
AS		5,387,213	02/07/95	BREARD ET AL.			

Examiner: A. Stewart

Date Considered: 08/12/03

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Form PTO-1449	Docket Number (Optional)	Application Number
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION	2658 (203-2736)	09/815,504
	Applicant: Castro et al.	
(Use several sheets if necessary)	Filing Date: March 23, 2001	Group Art Number: 3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS		5,395,317	3/7/95	KAMBIN			
		5,395,372	03/07/95	HOLT ET AL.			
		5,400,805	03/28/95	WARREN			
		5,415,661	05/16/95	HOLMES			
		5,423,816	06/13/95	LIN			
		5,423,817	06/13/95	LIN			
		5,425,772	06/20/95	BRANTIGAN			
		5,431,658	07/11/95	MOSKOVICH			
		5,439,464	08/08/95	SHAPIRO			
		5,443,514	08/22/95	STEFFEE			
		5,454,811	10/03/95	HUEBNER			
		5,458,638	10/17/95	KUSLICH ET AL.			
		5,458,641	10/17/95	RAMIREZ JIMENEZ			
		5,470,334	11/28/95	ROSS ET AL.			
		5,480,403	01/02/96	LEE ET AL.			
		5,484,437	01/16/96	MICHELSON			
		5,489,307	02/06/96	KUSLICH ET AL.			
		5,489,308	02/06/96	KUSLICH ET AL.			
		5,496,318	03/05/96	HOWLAND ET AL.			
AS		5,505,732	04/09/96	MICHELSON			

Examiner	Date Considered
A. Stewart	03/19/03

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Applicant
Castro et al.

Filing Date	Group Art Number
March 23, 2001	3738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AS		5,522,899	6/4/96	MICHELSON			
		5,534,031	07/09/96	MATSUZAKI ET AL.			
		5,549,679	08/27/96	KUSLICH			
		5,554,191	09/10/96	LAHILLE ET AL.			
		5,562,736	10/08/96	RAY ET AL.			
		5,571,109	11/05/96	BERTAGNOLI			
		5,571,189	11/05/96	KUSLICH			
		5,571,192	11/05/96	SCHONHOFFER			
		5,591,235	01/07/97	KUSLICH			
		5,593,409	01/14/97	MICHELSON			
		5,609,635	03/11/97	MICHELSON			
		5,609,636	03/11/97	KOHRS ET AL.			
		5,741,253	04/21/98	MICHELSON			
AS		5,797,909	08/25/98	MICHELSON			

Examiner	Date Considered
A. Stewart	03/19/03

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Applicant: Castro et al.

Filing Date	Group Art Number
March 23, 2001	3738

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes	Translation No
AS		WO 87/07827	12/30/87	PCT				
		WO 89/12431	12/28/89	PCT				
		WO 90/00037	01/11/90	PCT				
		WO 91/06261	05/16/91	PCT				
		WO 91/16018	10/31/91	PCT				
		WO 94/17759	08/18/94	PCT				
		WO 95/22946	08/31/95	PCT				
		WO 95/32673	12/07/95	PCT				
		WO 95/35180	12/28/95	PCT				
		WO 9608205A1	03/21/96	PCT				
		WO 96/27321	09/12/96	PCT				
		WO 96/27339	09/12/96	PCT				
		2,015,507	01/06/91	CANADA				
		0 077 159	04/20/83	EPO				
		0 322 334 B1	06/28/89	EPO				
		EP 0 716 840 A2	06/19/96	EPO				
		EP 0 796 593 A2	09/24/97	EPO				
		736,213	11/21/32	FRANCE				
		2,295,729	12/1974	FRANCE				
AS		2,681, 525	03/26/93	FRANCE				

Examiner: A. Stewart

Date Considered: 03/19/03

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

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2658 (203-2736)	09/815,504

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes	Translation No
AS		2,706,309	12/23/94	FRANCE				
		25 42 056	03/31/77	GERMANY				
		43 28 690 A1	03/02/95	GERMANY				
		28 24 678	12/20/79	GERMANY				
		31 13142 A1	01/14/82	GERMANY				
		1-314560	12/19/89	JAPAN				
		10-314560	12/02/98	JAPAN				
		57-29348	02/17/82	JAPAN				
		58-78653	05/12/83	JAPAN				
		61-16572	01/24/86	JAPAN				
		61-135652	06/23/86	JAPAN				
		62-29344	02/07/87	JAPAN				
		62-164458	07/21/87	JAPAN				
AS		1484348 A1	6/1989	SU				

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Date Considered: 03/19/03

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SEP 16 2002
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/815,504
Filing Date	March 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael Castro
Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	SPINE 3.0-2658

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Document Number: Number-Kind Code[2] *(if known)*	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
AS	AA	5,702,455	12-30-1997	Rahul Saggar	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code[3]-Number[4]-Kind Code[5] *(if known)*	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]
AS	BA	WO 99/56675	11-11-1999	SDGI Holdings, Inc.		

[1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. [3] Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). [4] For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. [5] Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. [6] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]

Examiner Signature	A. Stewart	Date Considered	03/19/03

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[1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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